



Approved For Release 2001/08/28 : CIA-RDP67B00558R000100100006-3

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

DD/ST# 2094-641
Com-2

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

JUL 24 1964

Academician A. A. Blagonravov
Chairman, Commission on Exploration
and Use of Outer Space
USSR Academy of Sciences
Moscow, V-312, Ulitsa Vavilova 18
U.S.S.R.

Dear Academician Blagonravov:

We have received your letter of July 8 proposing changes in Section IV of the Second Memorandum of Understanding to Implement the Bilateral Space Agreement of June 8, 1962 between the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the U.S., which provides for a cooperative review of the problems of space biology and medicine.

The opinion here is that the changes to Section IV suggested by the Academy would not lead to a clearly defined joint project in the spirit of the correspondence between President Kennedy and Chairman Khrushchev in March 1962. In effect, the Academy's proposal would delegate to individual authors, both U.S. and Soviet, the substance of the editorial function in assembling materials from both countries in their assigned areas. This very likely would bring uneven results which quite possibly would reflect inadequately the work done on one side or the other, since each author would be essentially unfamiliar with work outside his own country.

We continue to favor the plan embodied in the document as signed in Geneva on June 6, 1964. The arrangement for each chapter to appear in two parts, one emphasizing Soviet work and prepared by a Soviet author, the other emphasizing U.S. work and prepared by a U.S. author, offers assurance of a substantive and meaningful exchange of data. Each author would be dealing with an

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area of work in his own country with which he was totally familiar. The two-part chapters would represent not unnecessary repetition but desirable cross fertilization.

I have every hope that we shall be able to reach an agreement in this area. To that end, I propose that we take advantage of the October meetings of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in New York to continue our discussion of the space biology and medicine project.

I am pleased to note that the Soviet Academy finds the Second Memorandum of Understanding satisfactory in all other respects. As stipulated in Section V of that document, the failure to agree on the space biology and medicine project does not affect the other major areas covered. Therefore, we will consider Sections I, II, III, and V in effect when we have heard from you that the Academy concurs in the editorial changes suggested in my letter of July 2, 1964. Since the separate Protocol of June 6, 1964 is not subject to referendum, we are proceeding with installation of the meteorological data communications link.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh L. Dryden

Hugh L. Dryden
Deputy Administrator

bcc:

Honorable Donald F. Hornig
Office of Science and Technology
Mr. Charles E. Johnson
National Security Council
Dr. Albert Wheelon, CIA
Mr. Robert F. Packard (3) D/S, SCI
Mr. Arthur Johnson, Weather Bureau
Dr. John W. Townsend, Jr., GSFC

C O P Y

July 8, 1964

Dear Dr. Dryden:

Having examined the "Second Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of the Bilateral Space Agreement of June 8, 1962 between the USSR Academy of Sciences and the U.S. NASA", the USSR Academy of Sciences finds it necessary to make the following comments in regard to Section IV "Space Biology and Medicine".

The initial Soviet draft proposed that the monograph "Fundamentals of Space Biology and Medicine" be written in the following manner: an editorial board, established on a parity basis would select, for writing each chapter, the most outstanding and authoritative scientists from among the scientists of the USSR and the U.S. (and in certain cases from other countries as well) and would assign to each author so selected the task of writing the appropriate chapter, using all available material. With such a method of compilation, this work would be most exhaustive and of the highest scientific quality; moreover, it would be the product of true, broad international cooperation.

In the opinion of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the system of the parallel writing of each chapter by a Soviet and an American author would inevitably result in numerous repetitions and a one-sided interpretation of the material. Accordingly, the USSR Academy of Sciences proposes that paragraph 2(d) be replaced by the following wording:

"The editorial board shall, by common consent, assign the writing of each chapter to the most outstanding specialist in the appropriate field from among the USSR and U.S. specialists. In individual cases, the assignment may be made to an outstanding scientist of some other country.

It would be most desirable to add to each basic article of the joint work one or two brief articles, written by competent authors of other countries, in which there could be set forth the personal views of the authors as well as their critique of the material in the basic article".

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Therefore, paragraph 2(g) of Section IV should be eliminated.

In all other respects, the agreement is acceptable to the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Sincerely,

Chairman of the USSR Academy Sciences
Committee on Research and Use of
Outer Space

/s/ Academician A. A. Blagonravov

TO:

Dr. Hugh L. Dryden
Deputy Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration
Washington, D. C.